



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



African World Heritage Fund  
under the auspices of UNESCO



African World  
Heritage Fund



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture



AFRICA BUSINESS GROUP



## CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

### 5<sup>TH</sup> AFRICAN WORLD HERITAGE YOUTH FORUM *Youth, Entrepreneurship and Heritage Sustainability in Africa*

**DATE:** 28<sup>th</sup> April – 5<sup>th</sup> May 2020

**VENUE:** Robben Island, South Africa

**ORGANISERS:** African World Heritage Fund (AWHF), International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM), Robben Island Museum (RIM), Africa Business Group (ABG), University of Cape Town (UCT), UNESCO World Heritage Centre, African Union Commission (AUC)

**DEADLINE: February 23, 2020**

Applications are open for the 5<sup>th</sup> African World Heritage Youth Forum, a capacity building exercise focusing on **Youth, Entrepreneurship and Heritage Sustainability in Africa**. The Forum places an emphasis on **entrepreneurship skills development** towards promoting and increasing African youth participation in the stewardship and promotion of **World Heritage in Africa** in a creative and innovative approach. The forum aims to:

- Empower African youth through training and mentorship that will equip them with innovative and creative entrepreneurship skills in the field of heritage (e.g. business opportunity identification and evaluation, business management, financial resources mobilization, financial sustainability and innovation, entrepreneurial mindset skills, communication and networking).
- Mobilise young people and harness youth creativity and innovation in World Heritage conservation and sustainable development efforts in Africa.
- Provide an opportune platform for the creation of networks, exchange of knowledge, sharing of experience and success stories between and among the youth across Africa.
- Raise youth awareness and appreciation of issues and threats facing Africa’s heritage while stimulating their involvement in entrepreneurship activities that could bring direct economic benefits to local communities living in or around World Heritage properties in Africa.
- Gather young people from different backgrounds and encourage them to become responsible guardians and ambassadors of World Heritage across Africa.
- Encourage youth to improve their innovation and creative capacities in developing sustainable initiatives in their countries, which take into account the present-day issues and Aspirations of the African Union Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.

#### **ELIGIBILITY**

Thirty-five (35) young entrepreneurs from all African countries will be selected for the forum. Applicants must fulfil all of the following requirements:

- African citizen between the ages: 18 - 35;
- Minimum requirements: a post-secondary certified training and/or qualification;
- Fluency in English (being the working language of the Forum) and ability to communicate in at least one of the other three official languages of the African Union (French, Portuguese and Arabic);

- Personal attributes: motivated, active and driven individuals interested in learning how to assess the viability, feasibility, and desirability of new business ideas while engaging in a World Heritage network of young Africans eager to implement the outcomes of the forum in their home countries;
- Professional attributes:
  - Social entrepreneurs, project holders or anyone looking to start a social enterprise in need of assistance to implementing their projects.
  - Entrepreneurs and business owners who need to find new ways to create value in the market while championing sustainable conservation of promotion of Africa's heritage.
  - Acquainted with online media and digital platforms (social media e.g. Snapchat, Facebook, WhatsApp, Twitter, Instagram, digital platforms, etc.).
  - Bearers of ideas from different backgrounds and fields bringing innovative solutions to deal with the challenges that many African countries meet in safeguarding African heritage.

**Note:** Female candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.

## **BENEFITS**

The eight-day Forum will consist of interactive oral presentations from youth participants and experts from different fields combined with hands-on activities, group sessions and discussions, as well as guided visits to Robben Island World Heritage site.

Participants will gain entrepreneurship knowledge and skills in business opportunity identification and evaluation, business management, financial resources mobilization for business start-ups and/or expansion, entrepreneurial mindset skills, communication and networking, business plan development and sustainability of World Heritage. Participants will also benefit from mentorship and technical support from the organizers of the Forum.

The results of the Forum will be presented on the 5<sup>th</sup> of May as part of the celebration of African World Heritage Day and during the 44<sup>th</sup> session of the World Heritage Committee in July 2020.

The costs for the forum participation (return airfare, accommodation, meals, local transportation in South Africa) will be covered by AWHF, ICCROM and RIM. Selected participants shall meet their own local costs in the country of origin, as well as visa application costs to enter the Republic of South Africa.

## **APPLICATION**

Each applicant should submit the following application package:

- The completed application form;
- A motivation letter (maximum 1 page) detailing your reasons for applying and experiences related to entrepreneurship and heritage;
- Curriculum Vitae (2 pages maximum);
- A signed letter of recommendation from a university, organization or administrative authority/supervisor or testimonial letter in case of individuals;
- Sixty (60) seconds video pitching and presenting the business idea/existing business.

The complete application package should be submitted at the latest on the 23 February (midnight GMT) via the following email address: [awhfyouthforum5@gmail.com](mailto:awhfyouthforum5@gmail.com). Late applications will not be considered.

For any queries or problems during application process, please contact the AWHF: Dr Albino Jopela (+27 66 386 0783 and [Jopsj@dbsa.org](mailto:Jopsj@dbsa.org)) with copy to Ms Tshogofatso Monku ([tshegom2@dbsa.org](mailto:tshegom2@dbsa.org)). Please note that applications sent directly to these emails will not be accepted, kindly send the application pack only to the stipulated email address: [awhfyouthforum5@gmail.com](mailto:awhfyouthforum5@gmail.com)

Successful applicants will be informed by **9 March 2020** at the latest.